

From: Bob Eliason
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 2:22pm
Subject: Re: settlement

Microsoft has broken the law and continues to extend their illegal practices. The operating system must be broken away from the software business to protect the consumer. They are already eyeing digital television, game boxes, and Internet access and have made major inroads in creating a "standard" that they can control.

Just in the Internet realm, they adopted JAVA, attempted to change the standards by modifying their server software to only use their version, and then dropped it completely from Windows to eliminate it. Not a surprise since it is a potential competitor. Netscape plug-ins were eliminated to disable Quicktime. Hotmail has new "security" that disables other e-mail programs.

Innovation is not taking place. You now even have to get their permission and provide personal data just to use your computer that is running their software. There are better operating systems but the consumer is not given a choice or when there is a choice, the other platforms are not supported by Microsoft servers, services, or equivalent features. We could all just buy a Macintosh but it will be dead on the day that Microsoft stops making Office for the Mac (which doesn't have feature parity now).

Correct this sad settlement and create a punishment. It is a shame to hide behind September 11th. The consumer deserves better.

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